









# Improving Solid Waste Practices in the City of College Park



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#### What can YOU recycle?





# **Our Project**

# Improve solid waste practices in the City of College Park

Based on Maryland Zero Waste Plan



Develop 3-YEAR PLAN for the city to implement



## **Our Focus**

#### Three sections:

Education
Residents
School Students

Outreach Residents

Composting
Cost-Benefit Analysis
Backyard Composting



Compost at DPW ready to be sold



# Background On College Park's MSW

#### Sources:

4,400 single-family homes 53 multi-family units 33 businesses

#### Disposal:

 $Trash \Rightarrow Brown Station Landfill$ 

*Recycling* ⇒ Waste Management Recycle America

*Compost* ⇒ On-site





#### 2014 MSW Composition (CP)

*Trash*: 4,788.84 tons

Recycling: 1,423.48 tons

Compost: 3,461.05 tons



### **Zero Waste**



Maryland Zero Waste plan: Eliminate need for solid waste disposal by 2040

Waste disposal hierarchy



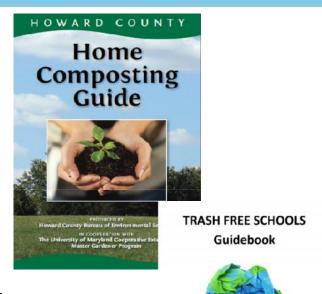


## **Methods: Education and Outreach**

Analyzed Resident Satisfaction Survey

Administered and analyzed a *survey* for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at the College Park Academy

Researched sample *educational materials* developed by other groups or municipalities









## City of College Park Resident Satisfaction Survey

#### Greatest Barrier: Unsure of what can be recycled



Email: 64%

Website: 46%

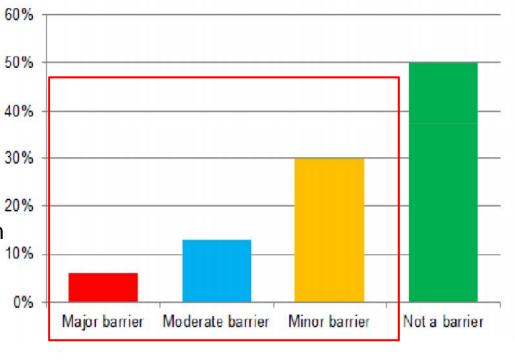
Newspaper: 25%

Post Mail: 21%

#### **Rating Public Works Services:**

SMARTLEAF/Compost Program

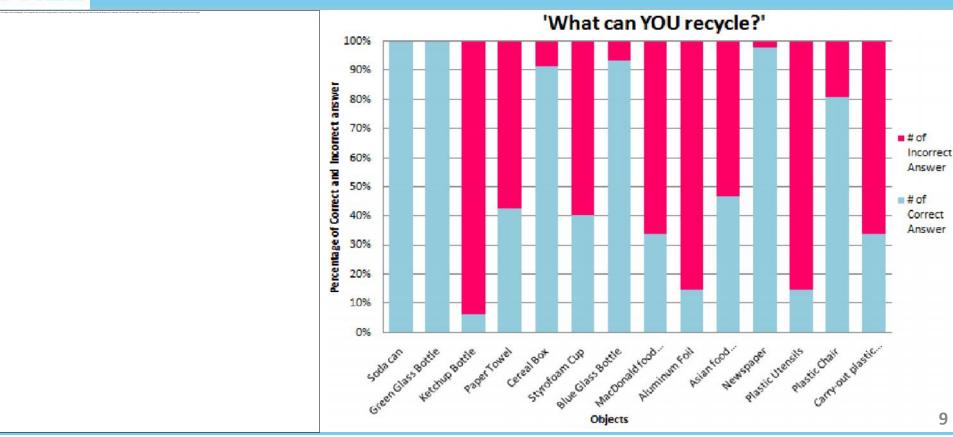
48%: "I don't know"



Change graph to be less confusing Ann Michelle Bolabo, 1



# **College Park Academy Survey**





# **Methods: Public Works Composting**

#### **Cost-Benefit Analysis:**

Collected and organized available city data on current composting operations

Analyzed data to determine total relevant expenses, savings and revenue

Expenses: \$159,440.00

Revenue: \$ 68,288.08

Avoided Fees: \$204,351.00

Net <u>Savings</u>: \$141,952.08

Suggest recommendations for improvement based on findings



### **Plan Goals**

Train residents on waste reduction

*Increase* composting operations

Educate students on waste reduction strategies

25% waste reduction

25% recycling increase



## 3 Year Plan: Residents

Goal: Educate residents on waste reduction and recycling

#### Year 1

Conduct waste audit
Develop educational materials
Develop recycling workshop

#### Year 2

Distribute materials Run workshop

#### Year 3

Conduct another waste audit

Determine changes in waste content



## 3 Year Plan: Schools

#### Goal: Educate students on waste-reduction strategies

#### Year 1

Develop materials with CPA
Baseline: "Trash Free Schools" program
Create sustainable, environmentally-aware
school culture via waste reduction and education

#### Year 2

Implement materials
Expand to include all grades taught at CPA
+1 Elementary School

#### Year 3

+1 Elementary School Compare and contrast from Years 1 and 2 Complete and expand plan





# 3 Year Plan: Public Works Composting

# Goal: Improve data collection and cost-effectiveness of composting operation

#### Year 1

Centralize and itemize all data at DPW Explore backyard compost options

#### Year 2

Conduct another Cost-Benefit Analysis for DPW operation

Suggest changes or cuts

#### Year 3

Implement recommendations
Use savings on other community projects





# **Summary**

#### Work With:

Residents

**Schools** 

#### Improve:

Compost education

**DPW Compost operation** 

#### Achieve:

25% Municipal Solid Waste reduction





# **Questions?**



National Center for Smart Growth | The University of Maryland, College Park



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